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09/181,001 10/28/98 VAN LIEMPD

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EXAMINER

CARTER, T	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2622
DATE MAILED:

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/181,001

Applicant(s)

VAN LIEMPD ET AL.

Examiner

Tia A Carter

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 1.
- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claim 1, 3-8, 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Coleman et al. (U.S. Pat No. 5859638).

Regarding claim [1], Coleman et al. discloses an operator control unit (Fig.1, column 6, lines 61-62) for operator control of a reproduction system, the control unit comprising:

display means for displaying operating screens (Fig. 1, column 6, lines 63-65);

operator control means for making selections on said operating screen (Fig. 1, column 6, lines 65-67; column 7, lines 1-2);

a first memory for storing a template sentence containing a series of words and word fields (Fig.2, column 7, lines 63-67; column 8, lines 22-29) ;

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A second memory for storing word sets corresponding to the word fields, each said word set containing word units (Fig. 3, column 8, lines 42-47);

generator means for generating a first operating screen for displaying the template sentence and for displaying corresponding word sets near said word fields (Fig. 1, column 7, lines 20-23);

word unit means for selecting a word unit from one of said word sets in response to user actuation of said operator interface in order to include the word unit in a corresponding word field (Fig. 1, column 7, lines 2-8);

instruction selection means for selecting a processor instruction based upon said template sentence and the selected word units (Fig. 5, column 9, lines 3-15);

confirmation means for confirming the selected word units in response to further user actuation of said operator interface (Fig. 4, column 8, lines 62-66) ; and

processor means for performing the processor instruction selected by the instruction selection means when the confirmation means is activated by the user (Fig. 4, column 8, lines 66-67; column 9, lines 1-2).

Regarding claim [4], Coleman et al. discloses the operator control unit according to claim 1, wherein the first memory stores at least two template sentences and the operator control unit further comprises (Fig. 5, column 9, lines 3-8):

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means for selecting a template sentence in dependence on the selections made so far by the operator on the operating screen (Fig. 5, column 9, lines 26-42).

Regarding claim [5], Coleman et al. discloses the operator control unit according to claim 1, further comprising:

means for modifying a template sentence in dependence on selected word units (Fig. 1, column 7, lines 23-24).

Regarding claim [6], Coleman et al. discloses the operator control unit according to claim 1, wherein said generator means depicts the template sentence along a first axis and said word sets along a second axis extending perpendicularly to the first axis and intersecting the template sentence at the corresponding word fields, respectively (Fig. 2, column 7, lines 63-67; column 8, lines 1-8).

Regarding claim [7], Coleman et al. discloses the operator control unit according to claim 1, wherein the selected instruction instructs the processor means to display a help screen (Fig. 3, column 8, lines 40-42).

Regarding claim [8], Coleman et al. discloses the operator control unit according to claim 1, wherein the control means is constructed as cascade keys (Fig. 1, column 7, lines 63-67).

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Regarding claim [10], Coleman et al. discloses in an operator control unit (Fig. 1, column 6, lines 61-62) for operator control of a reproduction system, a method of interfacing with a user, the method comprising:

storing, in a first memory, a template sentence containing a series of word s and word fields (Fig. 2, column 7, lines 63-67; column 8, lines 22-29);

storing, in a second memory, word sets corresponding to word fields, each said word ste containing word units (Fig. 3, column 8, lines 42-47;

generating a first operating screen depicting said template sentence and corresponding word sets near said word fields (Fig. 1, column 7, lines 20-23);

selecting a word unit from one of said word sets in response to user actuation of an operator interface in order to include the word unit in a corresponding word field (Fig. 1, column 7, lines 2-8);

Selecting a processor instruction based upon said template sentence and the selected word units (Fig. 5, column 9, lines 3-15);

confirming the selected word units in response to further user actuation of said operator interface (Fig. 4, column 8, lines 62-66); and

executing the selected instruction in response to said step of confirming said selected instruction (Fig. 4, column 8, lines 66-67; column 9, lines 1-2).

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Regarding claim [11], Coleman et al. discloses the method according to claim 10, wherein the template sentence is depicted along a first axis and said word sets are depicted along a second axis extending perpendicularly to first axis and intersecting the template sentence at the corresponding word fields, respectively (Fig. 2, column 7, lines 63-67; column 8, lines 1-8).

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sanchez et al.(EPO 745929 A1).

Regarding claim [9], Sanchez et al. discloses a reproduction apparatus comprising:

at least one scanning unit for scanning images and a network interface for receiving print jobs (Fig. 1, column 5, lines 58-59; column 6, lines 1-2);

a third memory for storing at least one of scanned images and print jobs , respectively (Fig. 2, column 6, lines 37-45);

a printing unit for printing at least one of scanned images and print jobs (Fig. 1, column 5, lines 58-59; column 6, lines 1-2) ;

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a central control unit for controlling said memory, said printing device and said at least one of said scanning device and said network interface to cooperate and so print printing at least one of scanned images and print jobs (Fig. 1, column 6, lines 2-7); and

An operator control unit including:

display means for displaying operating screens (Fig. 2, column 6, lines 14-16 and 43-44);

control means for making selections on said operating screens (Fig. 1, column 6, lines 17-19);

a first memory for storing a template sentence containing a series of words and word fields (Fig. 2, column 6, lines 46-50);

a second memory for storing word sets corresponding to word fields, each said word set containing word units (Fig. 1, column 6, lines 29-35);

generation means for generating a first operating screen for displaying the template sentence and for displaying corresponding word sets near said word fields (Fig. 4, column 9, lines 14-22);

unit word means for selecting a word unit from one of said word sets in response to user actuation of said operator interface in order to include the word unit in corresponding word field (Fig. 5, column 10, lines 13-32);

Instruction selection means for selection means for selecting a processor instruction based upon said template sentence and the selected word units (Fig. 4, column 9, lines 23-39);

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confirmation means for confirming the selected word units in response to further user the actuation of said operator interface (Fig. 7, column 11, lines 6-19); and

processor means for performing the processor instruction selected by the instruction selected means when the confirmation means is activated by the user (Fig. 2, column 6, lines 50-55).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 2-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Coleman et al. as applied to claim 1, 4-8, 10-11 above, and further in view of Mical (U.S. Pat No.4772882).

Regarding claim [2], Coleman discloses Mical discloses the operator control unit according to the preceding claim 1, wherein there are at least two corresponding word sets for each of said word fields (Fig. 2, column 7, lines 64-67; column 8, lines 1-8).

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Coleman does not disclose a word set selection means for selecting one of the at least two corresponding word sets for display on the screen near the corresponding word field, on the basis of a word unit selected in another word field (Fig. 4, column 3, lines 44-63).

Mical discloses the operator control unit according to the preceding claim 1, wherein:
there are at least two corresponding word sets for each of said word fields (Fig. 4, column 3, lines 52-57) the operator control unit further comprising:

word set selection means for selecting one of the at least two corresponding word sets for display on the screen near the corresponding word field, on the basis of a word unit selected in another word field (Fig. 4, column 3, lines 44-63).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Coleman et al. with respect to the teaching of Mical, wherein Mical disclosed a word set selection means for selecting one of the at least two corresponding word sets for display on the screen near the corresponding word field, on the basis of a word unit selected in another word field.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Mical with Coleman et al. to obtain the invention as specified in claim 2.

Regarding claim [3], Mical discloses the operator control unit according to claim 2, wherein said operator control means has a repetitive mode of operation such that word set selection is

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blocked for a period of the repetitive operation for the purpose of selecting a word unit in the other word field (Fig. 5a, column 5, lines 1-20).


Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Palmer et al., Obuchi et al., Lee, Singh, Kuwamoto et al., Nicol et al. and Bieniek et al. are cited to show the state of the art with respect to apparatus and method for providing use of a graphic user interface. Schliekelmann et al. and Altrieth et al. are cited to show the state of the art with respect to reproduction apparatus.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tia A. Carter whose telephone number is (703) 306-5433. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday from 9:30am to 6:00pm.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-5397.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-6056.


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